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GOOSE COVE ROAD  
SUNSET, MAINE 04683

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Sept. 16, 1999

FDA/Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)  
5630 Fishers Lane, Rm 1061  
Rockville MD 20852

Docket # 97N-0074

We have learned that the President's Council on Food Safety is analyzing how to improve food safety and is requesting public input.

We hope that the Council will start with the animals that are the source of the food. Unless problems such as overcrowding, subjecting them to stressful procedures and conditions, excessive use of antibiotics and other drugs, plus inhumane and unhygienic transport and slaughter are stopped any remedies to the present system of providing meat to the American consumer is no more than a bandaid. We hope the Council realizes how widespread knowlege is among the public about these conditions and that industry realizes that it will lose more and more customers for their products if this situation is allowed to continue. Any food safety program that fails to go to the heart of the problem cannot succeed.

What is needed is expanded regulatory authority at the production stage and, of course, with adequate funding.

We ask that our comments be included in the public record.

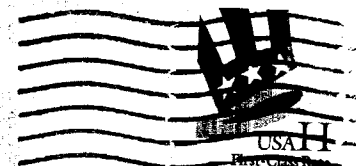
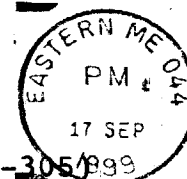
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